

ART. XV.—*On some Australian Curculionoidea.*

By CHARLES OKE.

[Read 13th November, 1930; issued separately 26th February, 1931.]

This article contains the description of four new genera and twenty-six new species. The genus *Phrynixus*, hitherto known only from New Zealand, is now recorded from Australia, and three species are referred to it. A new genus, *Mandalotina*, has been erected for some small species somewhat similar to *Mandalotus*, but without ocular lobes and with setose clothing only. *Daylesfordia* is proposed for a small species found living in wet moss, which has its eyes sunk in a groove and below the plane of the rostrum. *Dixoncis* is proposed for a pretty species found breeding in *Hakea nodosa*, and which is rather doubtfully referred to the Aterpinae. *Nyella* is proposed for an interesting species found on *Rapanea variabilis*, which is remarkable for its very fine small claws, which can hardly be seen except under a microscope, and for its anterior coxae being widely separated without a groove for the reception of the rostrum. The relation of this genus to any of the established subfamilies is at present doubtful.

The author wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to the authorities of the South Australian Museum, and to Mr. A. M. Lea for permission to compare specimens with their types, for comparative notes on some species, and for many specimens; also to Mr. S. Butler for loan of materials and advice in the preparation of illustrations.

All types are in the author's collection.

Family CURCULIONIDAE.

Subfamily OTIORHYNCHINAE.

ECRIZOTHIS SIMILIS, n. sp.

Piceous, tarsi and antennae diluted with red. Densely clothed with dingy greyish scales, interspersed with stiff setae.

Male.—Head with small indistinct punctures. Rostrum with median carina fine and obscured by the clothing. Antennae rather stout, just passing base of prothorax; scape lightly curved; funicle with two basal joints equal, longer than following joints, third to seventh equal; club as long as three preceding joints combined. Prothorax longer than wide, widest at apical third, sides rounded; surface uneven and transversely rugulose. Elytra elongate-ovate, striate punctate; interstices lightly convex, the third with two tubercles, the first postmedial, the second on edge of apical slope, anterior tibiae thickened at apex.

Female.—A little larger and stouter, with the prothorax as wide as long, and its sides more rounded, and the elytra widely ovate.

Length, 4.5-5 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Lorne (C. Oke).

Close to *E. inaequalis* Bl. in appearance, but the antennae are not so stout, the scape is lightly curved, and the joints of the funicle are differently proportioned.

On the fifth interstice there are some feeble swellings, scarcely visible through the clothing.

ECRIZOTHIS BLACKBURNI, n. sp.

Piceous. Densely clothed with dingy greyish scales, interspersed with stiff setae.

Head and rostrum as in *E. terminalis*. Antennae long and thin; scape scarcely reaching prothorax, suddenly thickened near apex; funicle with first joint longer than second, third shorter than second, fourth to seventh equal, shorter than third; club about as long as three preceding combined. Prothorax about as wide at apical third as long; appearing smooth on disc through clothing, slightly roughened on sides, with a fairly distinct medial line. Elytra ovate, striate punctate; third interstice with a

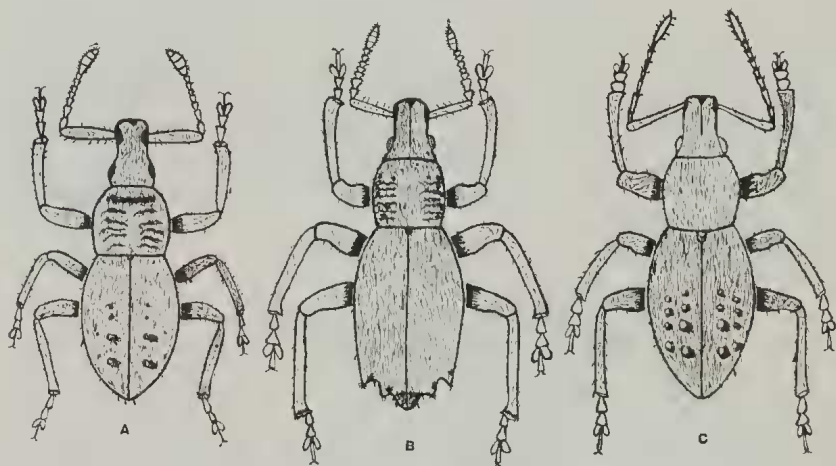


FIG. 1.—A. *Ecrizothis inaequalis* Bl.
B. *E. terminalis*, n. sp.
C. *E. bovei* Lea.

rather large round tubercle on edge of apical slope, fifth ridged from middle of elytra to near apex. Anterior tibiae produced inwards at apex and sparsely denticulate beneath. Length, 10 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Macedon (C. Oke).

Larger than normal specimens of *E. bovei* Lea, from which it is distinguished by the antennae and elytral tubercles.

ECRIZOTIUS TERMINALIS, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 1b.)

Castaneous, appendages diluted with red. Densely clothed with ashen-grey scales interspersed with semidecumbent setae.

Head with small dense punctures, normally concealed by the clothing, and a small interocular fovea. Rostrum gently incurved on sides; median carina fine. Antennae long; scape reaching thorax; first and second joint of funicle long, second slightly longer than first, none of the others transverse; club fairly large, distinctly four jointed. Prothorax longer than wide, widest in front of middle; surface uneven, transversely rugulose and with some impressions towards sides. Elytra elongate; depressed behind shoulders; third and fifth interstices raised and each with a large tubercle on edge of apical slope. Anterior tibiae with a few small denticulations.

Length, 8 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Grampians (C. Oke); Portland (National Museum).

Of the size of *E. bovei* Lea, from which it differs in the thicker scape and larger and differently shaped tubercles. The third and fifth interstices are raised, or formed, into several small obtuse tubercles, but end in large conical tubercles which are produced over the apical slope.

Paratypes in National Museum, Melbourne.

Subfamily LEPTOSINAE.

POLYPHRADES VIRIDIS, n. sp.

Black, tibiae and tarsi reddish-brown. Densely clothed with metallic green scales, in parts with a golden flush, but in certain lights appearing greyish.

Male.—Head rather feebly granulate. Rostrum moderately short and thick, with median carina short and sub-obsolete, lateral ridges strongly raised. Antennae stout, scape reaching middle of eye, first joint of funicle perceptibly longer than second. Prothorax transverse, with large feeble granulations. Elytra same width as prothorax at base and but little widened posteriorly; the striae with large subquadrate punctures, wider than the interstices, but partially concealed by the clothing; without basal margin. Front tibiae sinuate and feebly denticulate below, with the apex spurred.

Female.—Larger, and the front tibiae without denticulations.

Length, 5.6-25 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Hattah (J. E. Dixon, C. Oke), on Mallee.

Specimens of this species in good condition are very distinct on account of the colour of the scales, but, unfortunately, the colour is easily lost on account of the "varnishing," as Mr. Lea has called it, to which species of the genus are subject.

The width is almost evenly increased from apex of prothorax to the apical declivity of elytra, though the prothorax is very slightly wider across its middle than at base.

LEPTOPS NOTHUS, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 2a.)

Piceous-black, antennae brownish. Densely clothed with muddy brown scales, interspersed with stout decumbent setae.

Head with two large swellings between eyes. Rostrum rather short; median carina fairly prominent; sublateral sulci distinct. Scrobes deep, curved, becoming obsolete near eyes. Scape rather stout, none of the joints of the funicle transverse. Prothorax lightly transverse, with numerous tubercles. Scutellum absent. Elytra ovate, base truncate, where it is same width as prothorax, shoulders rounded off; with some large obtuse tubercles on sides

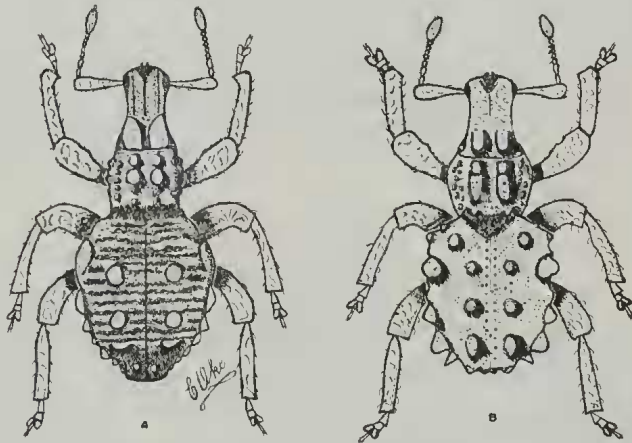


FIG. 2.—A. *Leptops nothus*, n. sp.
B. *L. phymatodis* Lea.

of disc, and on edge of apical slope, and with smaller and sharper ones down apical slope; with series of large punctures, concealed by the clothing, and transversely rugose. Front tibiae produced inwards to a strong spur.

Length, 9 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Belgrave; Mitchell Gorge (C. Oke).

Allied to *L. phymatodis* (1) and *L. crassirostris* (1) in the absence of a scutellum, but with different tubercles. In the present species the tubercles on the prothorax are small and numerous on the sides, and in two rows of four down centre, the four in front being fairly large, and the basal four small. On the base of elytra there are six very small tubercles projecting over prothorax. On the side behind the shoulder there is a small obtuse swelling, behind which is a larger one, while below them, on the

deflexed side, there is a small subconical projection. On the disc there is a medial tubercle common to the second and third interstice, and on the edge of the apical slope there is a procurved row of four tubercles.

This species has the facies of *Amisallus* (2), and agrees with that genus in not having a scutellum, but I have placed it in *Leptops* on the authority of Mr. Lea.

LEPTOPS PHYMATODIS Lea.

(Text-fig. 2*b*.)

The specimen from which the figure was drawn I obtained at Mt. Macedon, Victoria, and Mr. Lea subsequently identified it as his species.

MANDALOTUS ACANTHOCNEMIS Lea.

(Text-fig. 3*e*.)

(Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., liv, 1929, p. 531.)

I obtained a pair of this species at Eltham, Victoria, which I think had been in copulation. The male is 3 mm. long, and the subbasal tooth on anterior tibiae is larger than on some specimens of *M. avenaceus* obtained at Ballarat.

The female differs from the male in having the anterior tibiae shorter, without subbasal tooth and the apical sinus shorter and more acute. The abdomen is gently convex beneath.

Allotype in author's coll.

MANDALOTUS BIVITTICOLLIS Lea.

(Rec. S. Aust. Mus., iii, 1926, p. 171.)

A single male which I obtained at Macedon belongs to this species, but the prothorax is without the pale vittae on the sides, as described by Lea.

Besides the described tubercles, there is a small rounded one on the suture at apical slope. This and the rostrum are clothed with metallic golden scales. The tubercle on abdomen is small, but distinct.

MANDALOTUS TUBERIPENNIS Lea.

(Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., liv, 1929, p. 530.)

Specimens of this species collected on top of Mt. Donna Buang (4080 ft.) are slightly more robust than a specimen obtained on the river flats below Warburton. All are decidedly dark reddish-brown, which is apparently the mature colour.

MANDALOTUS INSIGNIPES Lea.

(Rec. S. Aust. Mus., iii, 1926, p. 172, figs. 78*g*, 79*d*.)

This is a very handsome beetle when in good condition. On a male from Fern Tree Gully, all the tubercles, sides of prothorax

and elytra, and parts of the legs, are covered with reddish-golden coloured scales. Mr. Lea describes the female as wider than the male, but the five females in my collection are much smaller than the male.

MANDALOTUS PENTAGONODERES Lea.

(Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., liv, 1929, p. 528.)

As suspected by Lea, his type of this species was immature. Seven specimens before me show that the normal colour is dark brown or blackish, with parts of the legs and antennae, beyond scape, reddish. On some specimens the golden scales are very numerous. In one case the golden scales on the pronotum are as numerous as the brown, while the apical slope and sides of the elytra are entirely clothed with reddish-golden scales, making it a very pretty specimen.

The male has the metasternum and abdomen with a large excavation common to both. In the female the metasternum is flat, as is also the apex of the first abdominal segment, but its base is slightly raised, so that the plane of the two segments is not the same. Collected at Belgrave, Emerald and Warburton (Oke).

Allotype in author's coll.

MANDALOTUS MACROPS Lea.

(Rec. S. Aust. Mus., iii, 1926, p. 183, fig. 80u.)

Two specimens of this species from Beechworth, Vic., show no sign of the swellings on the elytral interstices, otherwise they agree with the description.

Female similar to the male, but the abdomen convex beneath.

Allotype in author's coll.

MANDALOTUS VACILLANS Lea.

(Trans. Roy. Soc. S. Aust., xxxi, 1907, p. 140.)

Specimens of this species have been obtained at Cheltenham, Vic., by Mr. J. C. Goudie and myself. Now first recorded from the mainland.

MANDALOTUS INCONSPICUUS Lea and M. CRAWFORDI Bl.

(Lea, Trans. Roy. Soc. S. Aust., xl, 1916, p. 329.)

(Blackburn, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., v, 1890, p. 314.)

(*Dysostines*).

A few specimens of *M. inconspicuus* were obtained, in the company of many specimens of *M. crawfordi*, at Lake Hattah, under rubbish around cultivated land. Both are now recorded for the first time from Victoria.

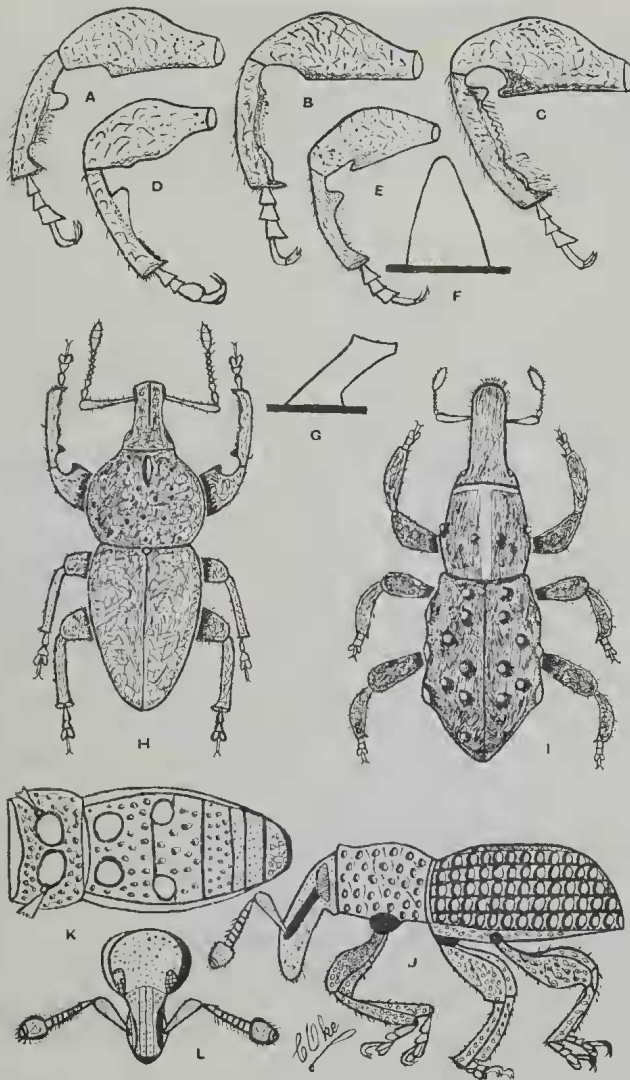


FIG. 3.—A. Anterior leg of *Mandalotus impressicollis*, n. sp.
 B. " " " *M. octagonalis*, n. sp.
 C. " " " *M. bryophilus*, n. sp.
 D. " " " *M. avenaceus* Lea
 E. " " " *M. acanthoenemis* Lea.
 F. Mesosternal process of *M. leai*, n. sp., viewed from behind.
 G. " " " " side view.
 H. *Mandalotus impressicollis*, n. sp.
 I. *Daylesfordia uvida*, n. sp.
 J. *Mandalotina atranotata*, n. sp., side view.
 K. " " " undersurface.
 L. " " " front view of head.

MANDALOTUS PENTAGONALIS Lea.

(Rec. S. Aust. Mus., iii, 1926, p. 168, fig. 80cc.)

A single male of this species collected at Cheltenham, Vic., the type locality, in September, has the same pale colour as the type. This is probably the normal colour, as my specimen appears to be mature.

MANDALOTUS LEAI, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 3f,g; 4a.)

Black, funicle and club reddish, tarsi and inside of anterior tibiae pale castaneous. Densely clothed with elongate muddy-brown scales interspersed with long stiff setae.

Male.—Rostrum short and stout, transversely impressed at base; median carina distinct. Antennae long; scape long, almost straight, regularly increasing in width to apex; first joint of funicle longer than second. Prothorax as long as wide, base trisinate, sides bisinuate, apex produced and bituberculate; disc very uneven, with a transverse impression near apex, from the ends of which is an oblique impression to the sides, and an impression on each side towards base; median line not traceable; with numerous small granules. Elytra trisinate at base, humeral angles lightly produced, posthumeral process very prominent; with rows of punctures, appearing small through clothing, and numerous granules; with fourteen tubercles on disc and six on apical slope. Anterior coxae narrowly separated. Metasternum with a strong projecting process. Base of abdomen with a large shallow impression. Femora inflated. Anterior tibiae straight to apical fourth, thence strongly curved inwards, apex produced into a thin plate, emarginate at its apex, the inner side of curved part nitid and glabrous. Intermediate tibiae feebly bisinuate and spurred at apex. Posterior tibiae bisinuate, the apical sinus longer and deeper, and produced into a curved spur on the lower surface, on the upper, notched near apex.

Female.—Smaller, with the upper surface the same except that the elytra are more tuberculate across middle, but the abdomen is convex on first segment, and the tubercle on metasternum is conical, and only on a level with the coxae. The legs are similar in outline, but on a modified scale, with the inside of the anterior tibiae clothed with scales.

Length, male, 7 mm.; female, 5.5 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Evelyn (C. Oke).

A large, rough-looking species, very distinct from any so far described. The prothorax might have been described as tuberculate, but the protuberances are more in the nature of swellings and not sharply defined. There are two at apex, two at base, on either side of scutellum and somewhat produced over elytra, a

small one on lateral margin, and an elongate one, or ridge, on anterior half, not reaching apex. The tubercles of the elytra are in six transverse rows; four on the base, two small ones, half way to apical slope, on the second interstice, just behind which are two larger ones near the sides, then two small ones on the second interstice, and four large ones on apex of slope, the median pair being behind the outer pair.

The mesosternal process is about half the length of a middle femur. From the front view it appears as a wedge-shaped piece, rather sharply pointed, but from the side it appears to be round, of even width from base to apex, with the apex itself produced into a small tooth and bent forward almost at right angles. The front tibiae are like Tindale's figure of *M. laminatipes* (3), but the apex in *M. leai* is emarginate.

MANDALOTUS IMPRESSICOLLIS, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 3a,h.)

Dark brown or blackish, legs and antennae (scape infuscated) reddish-brown. Densely clothed with dusky brown, ochreous, and whitish scales, interspersed with stout, curved setae.

Male.—Rostrum short, stout, curved; median carina very prominent. Antennae long and rather thin; scape curved, clubbed; first joint of funicle longer than second. Prothorax transverse, strongly rounded on sides, wider than elytra; median line distinct, foveate near apex; granules small and sparse. Elytra almost straight across base, posthumeral process absent; with regular rows of rather large punctures. Anterior coxae well separated. Intercoxal process of mesosternum with a narrow carina on its posterior edge. Metasternum and first segment of abdomen with a fairly deep impression, which is lightly continued on to the second segment. Anterior tibiae with a large blunt tooth near base, in front of which are seven small denticulations, the apex suddenly turned inwards and spurred. The other tibiae lightly spurred.

Female.—Similar to the male, but tibiae unarmed and abdomen gently convex. Length, 3.5-4 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Warburton, Ballarat, Emerald (C. Oke).

Allied to *M. avenaceus*, with which it would be associated in Mr. Lea's table (4), but differs in the front tibiae, not having a flange in front of the basal tooth. Perhaps nearer to *M. acanthocnemis*, but is larger, with the prothorax wider and the front coxae less separated.

On the type, which is in perfect condition, the pale scales cover the base of rostrum, sides and three discal spots on pronotum and two elongate spots at base of elytra, on third and fourth interstice. In some specimens the pale markings are rather obscure.

MANDALOTUS BRYOPHILUS, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 3c.)

Blackish, appendages reddish-brown. Clothed with dark ashen grey and lighter variegated scales, interspersed with short, curved setae.

Male.—Rostrum short, curved, dilated to apex; median carina very prominent. Antennae long and thin; scape rather strongly curved. Prothorax transverse, sides feebly rounded, widest towards apex; median line distinct; with small close granules, distinct through clothing. Elytra feebly trisinate at base, post-humeral process absent; with rows of punctures appearing small through clothing; anterior coxae narrowly separated. Metasternum and base of abdomen rather deeply impressed. Anterior tibiae with a blunt tooth near base, in front of which are six small denticulations, apex abruptly curved inwards and spurred. Posterior tibiae with a small sharp tooth at apical fourth, the apex suddenly dilated.

Length, 3.3-5 mm.

Female.—Similar, but the abdomen convex and the tibiae simple.

Habitat.—Victoria: Lorne (C. Oke).

The elytra could scarcely be called tuberculate, though there are some vague swellings just before the apical slope. From some directions the unevenness of the elytra appear to be due to transverse impressions. The outer interstices are more convex than the inner ones. The variegation of the clothing is general, without any distinct pattern, except an elongate white spot on base of third interstice. Another species allied to *M. avenaceus*, but the uneven elytra and armed hind tibiae will separate it from that species.

MANDALOTUS GRAMINICOLA, n. sp.

Reddish brown, blackish in parts. Clothed with muddy-brown and golden scales, interspersed with semi-erect stiff setae.

Male.—Rostrum rather stout, dilated to apex; median carina obscured by clothing. Antennae long, scape lightly and evenly dilated to apex; first joint of funicle thicker and longer than second; club large. Prothorax as long as wide, widest at apical third, strongly narrowed to apex, less to base; median line distinct; with rather large rough granules. Elytra trisinate at base, shoulders rounded off; a small tubercle on suture at apical slope, three tubercles on third interstice, an elongate one at base, a small one premedial, and one on apical slope, three on fifth interstice, each one just behind the corresponding one on third interstice. Undersurface almost glabrous. Metasternum deeply hollowed. Basal segment of abdomen flattened, and with a carina on its posterior edge, straight in middle, the ends lightly curved; basal and apical segments conspicuously punctured. Front coxae touching. Femora inflated. Tibiae spurred, anterior incurved at apex.

Length, 3 mm.

Female.—With abdomen gently convex, and without carina.

Habitat.—Victoria: Belgrave, Warburton, Emerald (C. Oke).

A narrow species with conspicuous tubercles on the elytra and the abdomen strongly carinate. In the table (4) it would be associated with *M. bryophagus*, from which it is separated by its tuberculated elytra. It is perhaps nearest to *M. denticulatus*, but the abdominal carina is more conspicuous, is longer and almost straight, and the tibiae are not denticulate, though the anterior are slightly roughened. All the specimens were found in grass.

MANDALOTUS EXPLANICOLLIS, n. sp.

(Text 4b.)

Dark brown, elytra and legs reddish. Clothed with dense dark brown scales on head and prothorax, elytra with pale yellowish brown scales, undersurface and legs with thinner reddish-brown scales, a narrow stripe of white scales around sides of prothorax; interspersed with short stiff setae.

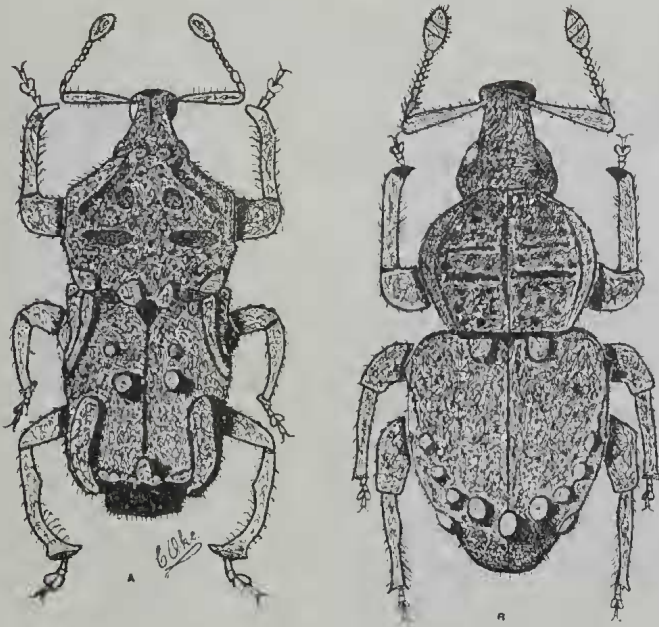


FIG. 4.—A. *Mandalotus leai*, n. sp.
B. *M. explanicollis*, n. sp.

Male.—Rostrum strongly curved and dilated to apex, median carina indistinct. Antennae long, scape dilated at apex, club stouter than usual. Prothorax strongly transverse, widely rounded and explanate on sides, which are lightly raised; median line fine but distinct; granules appearing small and indistinct through clothing. Elytra trisinate at base, shoulders rounded off, post-humeral process distinct; with a strongly curved row of six

tubercles, behind which is a straight row of three. Front coxae distinctly separated by a narrow, bluntly pointed, process from the front, which meets a wider, rounded, process from behind. First abdominal segment flattened and with a strongly curved carina, from coxa to coxa, reaching apex of segment. Second segment with a small flattened space, and a short curved carina on its apical fourth. All femora inflated. Tibiae bisinuate and spurred at apex; front tibiae denticulate and the apical sinus deep.

Length, 3.5 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Lorne (C. Oke).

In the table (4) would be associated with *M. magnicollis*, from which it differs in many respects, in its very different prothorax, elytra tuberculate and trisinate at base, and metasternum and abdomen not having a large excavation. From *M. bicarinatus* it differs, besides thorax, in having tuberculate elytra and alternate interstices not raised.

The tubercles form a deeply procurved row, the posthumeral process forming its apices, and the large tubercles covering the third and fourth interstices its base; behind this is a straight row of three tubercles; a large round one on the suture and a sharp conical one on either side, on the sixth interstice. From some directions the prothorax appears to be transversely impressed near base and apex, causing the middle to appear raised, but this is not distinct.

MANDALOTUS OCTAGONALIS, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 3b.)

Reddish-brown, undersurface and appendages castaneous. Densely clothed with dusky brown scales, except on rostrum, apex and sides of prothorax; an arcuate fascia on apex of apical slope of elytra, a wide ring on femora and on sides of abdomen, where they are white or nearly so; interspersed with stiff dark setae. Most of undersurface nitid and glabrous.

Male.—Rostrum short and stout, dilated to apex; median carina not visible through clothing. Antennae long, rather stout; scape curved; second joint of funicle longer than first. Prothorax a little longer than wide, obliquely narrowed to base and apex, the apex lightly produced in centre; median line distinct; granules transversely arranged. Elytra conjointly arcuate at base, shoulders rounded off and lightly raised; a small swelling at base of third interstice and some small swellings about apical slope; with regular rows of punctures, appearing small through clothing. Metasternum and first abdominal segment deeply impressed, and lightly continued on to the second. Front coxae rather widely separated, middle coxae with a thin, shining carina. Femora inflated, the front ones very strongly. Tibiae strongly spurred at apex; anterior curved and with a few small denticulations, being larger near base.

Length, 4 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Warburton, at about 3000 ft. (C. Oke).
Unique.

The elytra can scarcely be called tuberculate, but, if so, it would be associated with *M. funereus* in the table (4), which is a larger species, with different tubercles, abdominal impression not so deep and hind tibiae denticulate. If elytra be not considered tuberculate, it would be associated with *M. rauli*, from which it is distinct by the shape of the prothorax and its elytra. The intercoxal process of pro-, meso-, and metasternum are rather deeply foveate. The outline of the prothorax appears from some angles to be of eight, though unequal, sides.

MANDALOTUS MINUSCULUS, n. sp.

Blackish, antennae reddish brown, parts of legs flavous, clothed with variegated scales, brown predominating, though many are golden; interspersed with short, semi-erect setae.

Male.—Rostrum short, thick; median carina absent. Eyes unusually large and round. Antennae thin, ordinary length. Prothorax transverse, rounded on sides; roughly granulated. Elytra wider than prothorax, feebly trisinate at base, shoulders rounded off, posthumeral prominence absent; punctures in striae appearing very small through clothing, but, on abrasion, seen to be about the width of intervals. Undersurface thinly clothed with setae only; lightly punctured; with an elongate hollowed space common to metasternum and basal segment of abdomen. Femora inflated, the anterior more strongly than the others. Tibiae feebly spurred.

Female.—With eyes smaller, elytra wider, femora not so inflated, and without the depression on the undersurface.

Length, 2.2.5 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Carrum (Rev. E. Nye, C. Oke). On marshy, wet ground.

A small species, having unusually large eyes, the distance between them being about half the width of an eye. The prothorax after abrasion appears to have the whole surface roughly granulate.

In the table (4) would be associated with *M. macrops*, but the ocular lobes of that species are very different. It is more like *M. vigilans* in appearance, but the elytra are nowhere tuberculate.

Some of the specimens obtained are pale, of a flavous colour, but this is probably due to immaturity. Many of the scales give off golden, silvery and greenish reflections.

Paratypes in coll. Nye.

MANDALOTUS EGENUS, n. sp.

Black, or nearly so, antennae and legs reddish. Clothed with greyish scales, interspersed with curved setae. Undersurface nitid and mostly glabrous.

Male.—Rostrum short, dilated to apex; median carina absent. Antennae moderately long. Prothorax distinctly longer than wide, median line well defined; with numerous small rough granules. Elytra elongate, base conjointly arcuate, shoulders rounded, posthumeral prominence absent; alternate interstices feebly raised; with regular rows of large punctures. Undersurface with well-defined punctures, becoming more numerous at apex of abdomen; with a deep impression common to metasternum and first segment of abdomen; second segment with a carina on its apex, occupying about one third of its width. Anterior coxae lightly separated, all tibiae scooped out on lower surface towards their apices, which are spurred.

Length, 2.5-3 mm.

Female.—With metasternum and abdomen simple, and tibiae not so scooped out.

Habitat.—Victoria: Belgrave; Fern Tree Gully (C. Oke).

This species is exactly like *M. tenuis* Lea, except in the characters of the abdomen. Both species should, I think, be placed in a separate genus, as neither can be said to have ocular lobes. They are also narrower and more depressed than the other species, but still they have much the facies of the genus.

In the table (4). *M. egensus* would require a new section:—DD, eee. A transverse carina on second segment—*egensus*.

Mandalotina, n. gen.

Body elongate, apterous, setose. Head small, rounded. Eyes round, facets moderate. Rostrum rather stout, almost straight, carinate; scrobes slightly oblique. Antennae with 7-jointed funicle. Prothorax subcylindrical, ocular lobes absent. Elytra striate-punctate. Anterior coxae touching, intermediate very little separated, posterior distant. Legs short, femora inflated.

This new genus is proposed for some small weevils having the facies of small Mandaloti, but without ocular lobes and clothed with setae only. They all agree in having the prothorax with a transverse impressed line near the apex, and the undersurface with sharp distinct punctures.

Genotype *M. atranotata*.

MANDALOTINA ATRANOTATA, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 3j,k,l.)

Reddish castaneous, with black markings on elytra. Clothed with short, stiff, yellowish setae.

Male.—Head finely punctured. Rostrum with semiconfluent punctures. Antennae with scape straight, and dilated on apical

third; funicle with first joint longer and stouter than second; club fairly large. Prothorax lightly rounded on sides; constricted near apex; with large rugose punctures. Elytra conjointly arcuate at base, shoulders rounded off; interstices sharply convex; striae with punctures wider than, and encroaching on, interstices. Undersurface with punctures more closely packed on metasternum and first abdominal segment, which are also hollowed out. Femora lightly inflated, tibiae straight.

Female.—Differs from the male in not having the metasternum and abdomen hollowed, and the femora less inflated.

Length, 1.5 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Belgrave; Warburton; Lorne (C. Oke).

The black markings on the elytra vary; in some specimens they are mere spots on the sides, but are more widely spread in others. In one specimen they appear as two sinuate fasciae. The rostrum from some angles appears to be finely tricarinate.

MANDALOTINA VARIA, n. sp.

Ferruginous; metasternum, base of abdomen and parts of legs reddish; elytra infuscated in parts; swellings castaneous. Rather thickly clothed with pale yellowish, decumbent setae.

Head and rostrum with fine confluent punctures. Rostrum with very fine carinae. Antennae long and thin. Prothorax transverse, widest near base, lightly rounded on sides; the preapical impression very distinct; with confluent punctures. Elytra conjointly arcuate, shoulders rounded off, with a posthumeral prominence; striae with punctures encroaching on the interstices, which are finely punctate; with numerous swellings. Anterior femora more inflated than the others. Tibiae fairly stout on basal half, then scooped out to near apex, the anterior lightly incurved to apex.

Length, 2.25 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Emerald (C. Oke).

The swellings, or tubercles, on the elytra consist of an elongate one on the suture at apical slope, on either side of which, near its base, is a small one on the second interstice, and two each on the fifth to eighth interstices. The first on the sixth is basal, the other seven elongate swellings are placed in two oblique rows near the middle.

MANDALOTINA BICOLOR, n. sp.

Piceous black; pronotum, a median line excepted, tubercles on elytra, antennae and middle of femora red or reddish. Very sparsely clothed with short decumbent setae.

Head with small, rough, reticulate punctures. Rostrum with fine carinae and rows of punctures. Antennae rather long and thin, prothorax widest at about middle, rounded on sides; with an elongate median fovea, and the preapical impression very distinct; punctures a little larger than on head. Elytra conjointly

arcuate at base, shoulders rounded off; striae with punctures encroaching on the interstices, which are convex, and with tubercles. Anterior femora slightly more inflated than the others. Anterior tibiae lightly bisinuate, apical sinus the longer, incurved to apex, which is spurred. The other tibiae lightly curved to apex.

Length, 2 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Warburton (C. Oke).

The tubercles on the interstices are four on the third, a basal, medial, on edge of apical slope, and preapical, the basal being elongate; a medial on the fifth; and one humeral.

The punctures on the rostrum are in rows, leaving fine carinae between the rows.

Subfamily RHYPAROSOMINAE.

Phrynixus Pascoe.

(Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., Sept., 1875.)

Rostrum moderately long, arcuate, base constricted; scrobes median, foveiform at insertion of antennae and lightly impressed to middle of eye. Eyes small, round, coarsely granulated; distant from thorax. Antennae with scape clubbed; funicle 7-jointed, first and second joints longer than the others; club distinct. Prothorax sub-oblong, uneven, ocular lobes obsolete. No scutellum. Elytra ovate, tuberculate. Legs short, femora thickened in middle; tibiae with apices mucronate; tarsi with two basal joints short, third longer, excavated on upper surface, fourth longer, with two claws. Abdomen with two basal joints connate.

Genotype, *P. terreus* Pasc. (5).

This genus has hitherto been confined to New Zealand. Lea's example (7) of *P. astutus* Pasc. (6), from Victoria, is probably a mistaken identification.

The three species now described have a rough, shaggy appearance, with the clothing matted together, and generally having mud mixed with it. On specimens in good condition the clothing is formed into fascicles on pronotum, elytra and legs. The legs are densely clothed, with the setae and scales formed into three or four fascicles, running around the tibiae, giving them an angular appearance, but they are almost straight. A specimen of *P. victoriae* and one of *P. major* have been completely abraded so as to describe their sculpture, this not being visible through the clothing.

A short generic description based on Pascoe and specimens in my collection is given above.

PHRYNIXUS VICTORIAE, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 5a.)

Dark reddish-brown, infuscated in parts. Densely clothed with muddy brown scales and fairly long, stiff setae.

Head with a large foveiform impression behind eyes; with a few indistinct punctures. Rostrum long and stout, dilated to apex; a short carina between eyes; with indistinct punctures. Antennae with scape lightly bent, thin at base, suddenly and strongly thickened near apex; first and second joints of funicle sub-equal; club fairly large. Prothorax about as long as wide, rounded on sides; surface very uneven and with large punctures; a strong median carina; a large angular tubercle at apical angle, behind which are two smaller ones; two round tubercles near middle, about equidistant from each other and the sides; and an elongate tubercle, on either side of median carina, on the base. Elytra with humeral angles widely rounded off, thence gradually narrowed to apex; with large punctures in striae, the punctures wider than the interstices, but interrupted and pushed out of place by the swellings and tubercles; the third interstice with three tubercles; an elongate one (occupying the length of four punctures) on base, a rounded postmedian, and a large acute one on apical slope; the fifth interstice with two tubercles; a small rounded medial and a large acute one near apical slope. Undersurface smooth. Femora inflated. Anterior tibiae lightly curved, the others straight.

Length, 5.5-5 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Belgrave; Warburton (C. Oke).

Very distinct from the following species in the large elongate tubercles on base of elytra, and its more rounded outline.

PHRYNIXUS SYLVICOLA, n. sp.

Dark flavous, tip of rostrum infuscated. Clothing as in preceding species.

Head transversely impressed behind eyes. Rostrum moderately stout. Antennae with scape very thin at base, suddenly thickened near apex; first joint of funicle stouter and longer than second; club moderately large. Prothorax longer than wide, lightly narrowed to base; apex bisinuate; tuberculate in centre and on sides. Elytra strongly arcuate at base, shoulders obliquely cut away, thence parallel to apical slope; tuberculate near shoulders and on sides, and with four tubercles on apical slope, the inner pair smaller and in front of the outer pair; with large deep punctures. Undersurface smooth. Legs straight.

Length, 4.5-5 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Belgrave, Gembrook (C. Oke).

This species is the nearest to *P. astutus* Pasc., for a specimen of which I am indebted to Mr. Lea, but the scape is much thinner and more suddenly clubbed, the rostrum is also thinner, the clothing is rougher, and the tubercles are larger, though fewer in number.

PHRYNIXUS MAJOR, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 5b.)

Black; antennae and tarsi reddish-brown. Clothing as in *P. victoriae*.

Head impressed between eyes, with rough uneven punctures. Rostrum fairly stout, strongly curved; somewhat raised down centre, on either side of which is a narrow sulcus from eyes to antennae; antennal scrobes fairly well developed, but invisible through clothing; rugosely punctured. Antennae with scape very thin till near apex, where it is suddenly thickened; second joint of funicle thinner and longer than first; club moderate. Prothorax oblong, trisinate at apex, the median sinus feeble; abruptly narrowed near apex; carinate down centre, the apical two-fifths strongly raised; two small medial tubercles on disc, and one on each side at apical fourth; with large rough punctures. Elytra

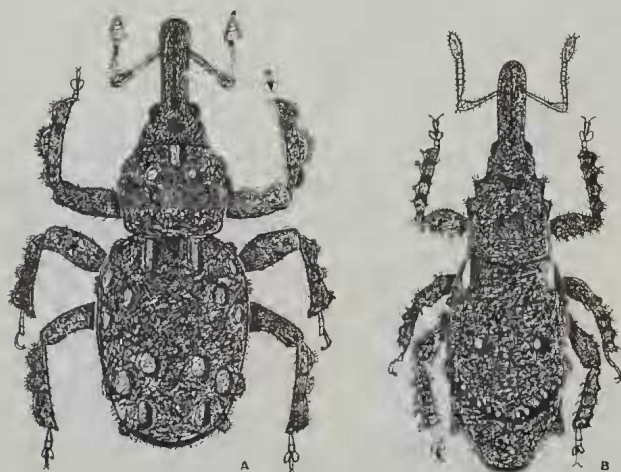


FIG. 5.—A. *Phrynixus victoriae*, n. sp.
B. *P. major*, n. sp.

sub-elliptic, widely depressed between shoulders; shoulders raised or ridged; a medial tubercle on fourth interstice, a strongly pro-curved row of tubercles on summit of apical slope, a small tubercle on the sixth and the largest (on the insect) on the fifth interstice, on the apical slope; with large punctures in the striae, wider than the interstices. Undersurface smooth. Anterior tibiae with a small rounded tubercle near apex.

Length, 8-9 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria; Belgrave; Gembrook (C. Oke).

The clothing on this species is less rough than on the other two species, but is fasciculate on the sides of prothorax and on the tibiae. It is also decidedly larger.

Daylesfordia, n. gen.

Ovate. Rostrum of moderate length, lightly compressed and curved, slightly narrowed to apex; with median carina. Scrobes flexuous, turned under head. Eyes strongly transverse, coarsely faceted, sunk in a groove at base of rostrum. Antennae inserted about apical third of rostrum; scape clubbed; funicle 6-jointed, first joint large, globose, second small; club large annulated. Prothorax without ocular lobes, lightly emarginate below. Elytra ovate, tuberculate. Metasternum short, prominent. Abdomen with two basal segments subequal, suture strongly incurved, third and fourth very short. Anterior coxae contiguous, intermediate very narrowly separated. Legs short, femora inflated, tibiae with apices bimucronate and with a fringe of small spines. Tarsi wide, 1-3 subequal in length, 3 bilobed, 4 a little longer, with two divaricate claws. Apterous.

The most interesting and distinctive character of the small weevil for which this new genus is proposed, is the eyes. These are strongly transverse, about 2.5, and sunk in an impression, at base of rostrum, so that their surface is below that of the rostrum. The metasternum is protuberant, but I have not been able to see its episternum clearly, probably on account of the coarse reticulate punctures with which it is covered. The club is as long as the funicle, the joints of the latter are very distinct, with the first large, the second very small, and then increasing to the sixth.

In the present state of the classification of the family this genus might be referred to any one of several subfamilies, but I think it is placed preferably in Rhyparosominae.

Genotype, *D. uvida*.

DAYLESFORDIA UVIDA, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 3i; 6d).

Piceous, a white stripe across apex and a white vitta down centre of prothorax. Clothed with muddy brown scales, feebly variegated in parts; also with sparse stiff setae.

Male.—Rostrum in front of antennae nitid and with setae only; median carina distinct through clothing. Prothorax a little longer than wide, sides rounded, transversely impressed near apex; with a raised longitudinal carina; with two medial tubercles, one on either side of carina, and one on the lateral margin, slightly in advance of the medial tubercles. Elytra trisinuate and a little wider than prothorax at base, shoulders rounded off; the third interstice with four tubercles; first on base, second close behind, third postmedial, and fourth on edge of apical slope; the fifth interstice, with two tubercles; first median, second just before apical slope; the sixth interstice, with one tubercle, the largest on elytra, on edge of apical slope; there is also a tubercle on the side just behind humerus. Legs semifasciculate. Tibiae straight on inner edge.

Female.—Differs from male in being a little larger, with rostrum slightly longer, and the abdomen convex.

Length, 1.60-1.90 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Daylesford district (C. Oke), in wet moss, and in moss received from Mr. C. J. Gabriel.

Subfamily ATERPINAE.

Dixoncis, n. gen.

Head short. Eyes oval. Rostrum short, thick, dilated to apex; scrobes curved and directed obliquely downwards and meeting on lower surface at base of rostrum. Antennae inserted at apical third of rostrum; rather thin, with scape shorter than funicle; funicle 7-jointed. Prothorax subcylindrical; ocular lobes moderate; deeply emarginate below. Scutellum small, round. Elytra elongate. Metasternum long. Abdomen with segment 1 long, 2 shorter, 3-4 short, equal, 5 same as 2; sutures distinct, first strongly incurved to middle, others straight. Legs short. Femora dentate. Tibiae spurred at apex. Tarsi moderately wide; third joint cleft, fourth long with two fine claws, lightly separated. Winged.

Genotype, *D. pictus*.

Referred to the Aterpinae with some doubts, but it seems more in place there than elsewhere. The following characters, in combination, will distinguish it from other Australian genera: rostrum and scrobes, femora armed, tarsi with third joint lobed and the small claws, only lightly separated.

Named after my friend, Mr. J. E. Dixon, who has taken a fine series of specimens.

DIXONCIS PICTUS, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 6*b,c*.)

Dark reddish-brown, scape, funicle and legs pale reddish. Densely clothed with bright reddish, brown and ochreous scales.

Rostrum carinate, and with moderate semi-confluent punctures. Prothorax longer than wide, slightly rounded on the sides, widest about middle. Elytra conjointly arcuate at base, with rows of large punctures, wider than the interstices. Undersurface with rather large, close punctures. Femora thickened towards apex, with a fairly large tooth on underside, between this and apex deeply notched. Anterior tibiae incurved to apical spur; intermediate and posterior lightly bisinuate.

Length, 5.5-7.75 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Killara (C. Oke); Ringwood-Bayswater district (J. E. Dixon, C. Oke). Tasmania: Cradle Mountain (Carter and Lea).

A pretty species with the shade of the red scales varying in individual specimens, but the following ochreous markings are constant in all; a fine median and wider lateral vittae on full length

of prothorax; scutellum, and some spots alongside suture ending in two large medial blotches; an oblong blotch, placed obliquely, on sides behind shoulders; an arcuate mark on apical slope, starting on sides, reaching fourth interstice, and then turned obliquely downwards to the apex. All the pale markings are outlined with the darker brownish scales.

Paratypes in National and South Australian Museums, and colls. Dixon, Lea, Nye.

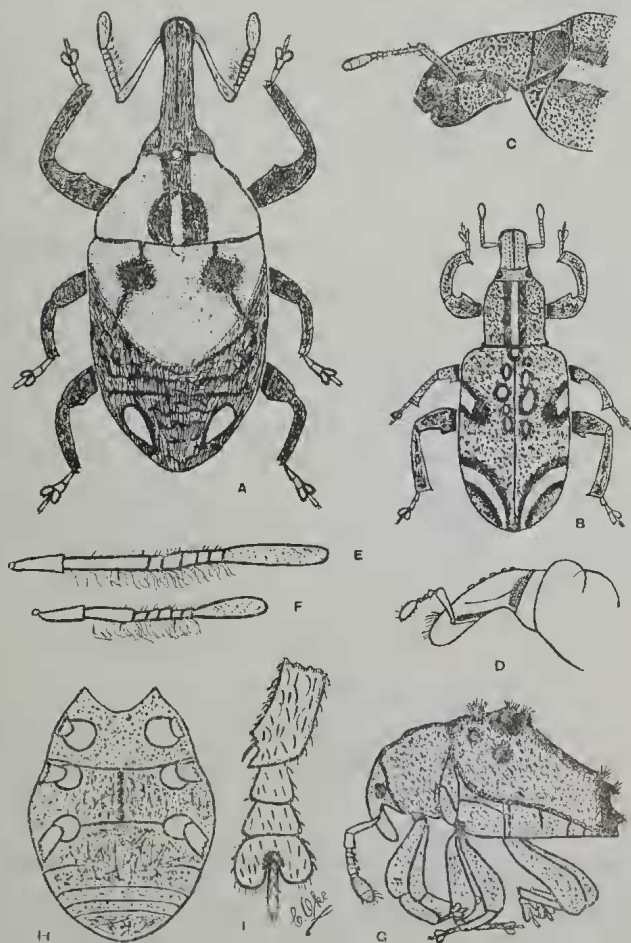


FIG. 6.—A. *Blepiarda panacis*, n. sp.
 B. *Dixoncis pictus*, n. sp.
 C. " " side view of head
 D. *Daylesfordia nvida*, n. sp., side view of head.
 E. Antenna of *Blepiarda undulata* Pasc.
 F. " " *B. panacis*, n. sp.
 G. *Nyella tuberculata*, n. sp., side view.
 H. " " undersurface.
 I. " " posterior tarsus.

Subfamily CEUTORHYNCHINAE.

RHINONCUS AUSTRALIS, n. sp.

Piceous-black, appendages reddish. Sparingly clothed with white, or almost white, scales, becoming more numerous on sides of prothorax and sternum, and forming an elongate spot behind scutellum.

Male.—Head and rostrum carinate down middle; with confluent punctures. Prothorax widest at base, narrowed to apex; with fine reticulate punctures. Elytra conjointly arcuate; striae with punctures encroaching on the interstices; interstices almost flat near suture, but becoming rather sharply raised towards the sides, interstices finely punctured, and, from the fifth interstice, with numerous small granules. Posterior femora inflated.

Female.—A little darker and wider, and with the abdomen slightly more convex.

Length, 2.5 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Natya (C. Oke); Kerang (R. Blackwood).

In general appearance close to *R. nigriventris*, but distinguished by the sculpture of the elytra. When looked at from above, the granules are not very distinct, but when viewed sideways they are very apparent as small projections. The clothing is also sparser, the pronotum not trivittate, and the scutellar pale marking is shorter, though wider, in *R. australis*.

This weevil has quite a loud "squeak" for so small an insect, and when held in the fingers stridulates freely. It can also jump a height of two or three inches for a length of about five inches. This is less than the Rhamphi, whose bulk is considerably less, and whose hind femora are much larger, can manage.

Subfamily CRYPTORHYNCHINAE.

DIETHUSA SETOSA, n. sp.

Reddish. Densely clothed with stramineous, brown and black scales, interspersed with suberect, stout setae, mostly black.

Male.—Rostrum long, thin, curved, with very sparse, small punctures. Antennae inserted in middle of rostrum. Prothorax scarcely transverse, lightly rounded on sides. Elytra trisinate at base, wider than prothorax; sides parallel for a short distance, then narrowed to apex; interstices flat; punctures in striae appearing small through clothing. Metasternum and basal segment of abdomen conjointly concave. Second segment not as long as next two combined. Anterior femora edentate; intermediate subdentate; posterior strongly dentate. Anterior tibiae lightly falcate, with apical spur long and acute.

Length, 4 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Bendigo (C. Oke), on *Acacia pycnantha*.

A large species with distinctive clothing; the setae are very con-

spicuous and thick on head, prothorax and elytra, mostly black, with a fair number of pale ones. On the rostrum between antennae and tip there are some pale, fine setae.

DIETHUSA VENUSTA, n. sp.

Dull reddish. Densely clothed with white, stramineous, golden and rusty-brown scales; whitish on undersurface.

Male.—Rostrum thin, about length of prothorax, moderately curved; with close, elongate punctures; squamose near base; median ridge faint. Antennae inserted about three-fifths from apex. Prothorax transverse, lightly rounded on sides, much narrowed to apex. Elytra trisinate and scarcely one-fifth wider than prothorax, at base; sides nowhere parallel; striae with small punctures; interstices flat, finely punctured. Basal segment of abdomen depressed on base; second scarcely width of third and fourth combined. Anterior femora edentate, the others subdentate. Anterior tibiae with a fairly large spur.

Female.—Differs in having rostrum longer, thinner, nitid, almost impunctate, and median ridge not traceable; antennae inserted nearer base of rostrum; basal segment of abdomen gently convex; second slightly longer than next two combined.

Length, 3.70 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Gypsum (C. Oke).

A prettily variegated species of the size of *D. apicalis*, but the base of elytra and clothing very different. On head and rostrum the scales are pale golden; on prothorax white or whitish with an indistinct medial fascia and a medial vitta, from apex to fascia, of scales with a golden gloss; on elytra they are mostly golden-brown across base, with a white spot on shoulders, then a dark rusty-brown, uneven fascia, obliquely connected with scutellum, then follows an interrupted arcuate fascia of white scales, then an area of rusty-brown and golden spots, with the apex mostly pale. The hind femora are strongly notched, but are scarcely dentate.

BLEPIARDA PANACIS, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 6a,f.)

Very like *B. undulata* Pasc., but differs in being smaller, with darker markings on thorax and base of elytra, the scales on prothorax even larger in proportion to those of elytra, and in two basal joints of funicle being equal in length.

Length, 6.25-7.75 mm.

On the thorax the median third is dark except for a narrow pale vitta, from base to about middle, and a small medio-apical spot. On the elytra there is the same pale triangular basal part as in *B. undulata*, but it is invaded by a dark mark on base of the third interstice, which is connected with a square mark, common to the third to fifth interstices, on its lower and outer edge.

with the rest of the dark surface. The markings are the same on all the specimens examined, but are more sharply defined on some than on others.

Mr. Lea's detailed description of *B. undulata* (8) fits this species so well in other respects that further description is unnecessary.

Habitat.—Victoria: Fern Tree Gully (C. Oke), on, and bred from, *Tieghemopanax sambucifolius*,

INCERTAE SEDIS.

Nyella, n. gen.

Head small, round. Rostrum short, curved, a little wider at apex than base, almost cylindrical. Scrobes turning towards underside of rostrum. Antennae short, inserted about middle of rostrum; funicle 7-jointed; club distinct. Eyes rather large, lightly transverse, coarsely faceted. Prothorax transverse. Scutellum small. Elytra tuberculate. Prosternum flat between coxae. Mesosternum very short. Metasternum rather long, sulcate down centre, side pieces distinct, uncovered. Segments 1-2 of abdomen large, suture straight, very indistinct across middle, 3-4 very short, subequal, 5 same length as 3-4 combined. Anterior coxae widely separated. Tarsi with joints 1-2 narrow, equal, 3 wide, cleft to base, 4 twice length of 3, with two minute claws, very close together.

Genotype, *N. tuberculata*.

The position of this genus is doubtful, but the table of Le Conte and Horn, in the Classification of the Coleoptera of North America, indicates a grouping with the Trypetini. It is quite distinct from any other genus known to me. The anterior coxae are as widely separated as is possible without being on the sides of the prosternum.

It is with pleasure that I dedicate this genus to my friends, the Rev. E. Nye, of Wesley College, and his son, Mr. E. E. Nye, in memory of a very pleasant collecting trip.

NYELLA TUBERCULATA, n. sp.

(Text-fig. 6*g*, *h*, *i*.)

Dark reddish-brown. Thickly clothed with pale stramineous scales, the tubercles with black scales.

Head and rostrum with fine close punctures, apical three-fourths of rostrum glabrous. Antennae thin, scape straight, lightly dilated to apex; first joint of funicle stout, as long as next three combined; club large. Prothorax transverse, widest at base, constricted near apex; with small reticulate punctures. Elytra trisinate at base, evenly narrowed to apex; shoulders rounded; with a curved row of six tubercles near base; the largest being on the third interstice, one on the fifth, and the third on

the side; a large tubercle on fifth interstice at apical slope, and a smaller one on third interstice near apex; striae narrow, with small punctures; interstices flat, with close, fine punctures. Sternum with moderate sized reticulate punctures. Abdomen with very fine punctures. Anterior femora distinctly emarginate below.

Length, 3.5 mm.

Habitat.—Victoria: Mitchell Gorge (Rev. E. Nye, E. E. Nye, C. Oke).

At first glance this species is rather suggestive of *Rhaciodes*, with its tuberculate elytra, but is, in reality, far removed from that genus. Seen from the sides it has a peculiar outline, being flat with strongly humped shoulders.

The specimens described were beaten from the Mutton-wood, *Rapanea variabilis* Mez. I am indebted to Mr. J. W. Audas for the name of this plant.

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